

WORKERS of the WORLD UNITE THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST

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The Passing Show.

Revolutions are the price that humanity has paid for the freedom it enjoys.

Revolutions have always embodied the demands of the masses for more liberty.

A bye-gone dream of the masses was political liberty. That dream is dead, for they believe that they have political liberty.

On election day, all citizens are supposed to have political equality, but while the trusts and armament manufacturers control candidates, parties, and governments, how can the workers be said to be free?

The battle for political liberty, like the battle for industrial liberty, is yet to be won.

When the battle for political and industrial liberty is won, the result will constitute one more revolution.

If the workers want political and industrial liberty, they must fight for it. By devoting one day in every three years to voting for the trust candidates, and the rest of their time to working for their masters—the employers, the "bookies," and "stouch" promoters—they will not get much ahead.

The masters know the exploiting game from A to Z, while the workers are densely ignorant of it: so ignorant, in fact, that they do not know that they are being exploited. They do not know that every institution of our day is made to serve the interests of capitalism.

Parliaments, Churches, Schools, Workshops, the Press, Sporting Grounds, and Picture Shows, are all made to work for capitalism. They will continue to so work until the workers set themselves the task of educating themselves. They must be imbued with a new curiosity, a desire to find out all about parliamentary and industrial government.

A few are masters and many are slaves. They are slaves because they do not know as much as their masters. The slaves are under the hallucination that they depend upon their masters for their existence. They do not realise that they themselves could run the industries and government without the assistance of bosses.

If the workers realised that industry and government are made complex by the numerous parasites that batten on the community, they would soon take steps to simplify matters by abolishing them.

In Alabama, America, a farm laborer has to sign an agreement in which he promises to "render respectful obedience" in return for wages. Yet Americans fondly believe that they abolished slavery many years ago.

In "sunny N.S. Wales," Judge Heydon has been running amuck in the Arbitration Court, and the railway porters were told that they were liars and criminals who deserved to be severely dealt with. In the recent elections, J. H. Catts, the "labor leader" who led the men to the slaughter, topped the poll with a thousand more votes than he received at the previous election!

Arbitration Court Judges spend a lot of time in finding out what is "a living wage," and "a fair wage," when they might easily take a short cut by recognising that there cannot be such a thing as "a fair wage." Wages are paid out of the earnings of labor and something must be kept back, else the employer could not live. "A fair wage" only means legalised robbery, or "reasonable fleecing."

The recent strike in Belgium gave the world a glimpse of the wonderful solidarity of the working class of that country, and of the class stupidity and class-conscious opposition of the Church and the capitalists. What a lesson and what an inspiration did the strike convey to the workers of all countries! The workers in Belgium were striking for what the workers of Australia already have—the ballot, which represents a step towards political freedom. The Belgian worker will now be able to vote as he strikes, and judging by the way he used the general strike recently, he will not be, like his Australian

CONSCRIPTION.



A Trap for the Workers.

Authorised and inserted by W. R. Winspear, 115 Goulburn-St., Sydney.

fellow worker, found striking against the master class one day and voting for them on the next. The Belgian worker has learnt the lesson of Socialism, while the Australian studies the daily papers.

In the recent Federal elections numbers of "superior" workmen voted Liberal because they flattered themselves that they are not in the same class as the "common laborer." Probably they are not. They are in a distinct class in-as-much as they are bigger fools than any.

Man is the only creature that will suffer for want of food in the midst of plenty. The reason is that he takes his instructions from those who feed while he starves.

The "beautiful workings" of the capitalist system under Labor Liberal governments is beautifully illustrated by the "beautiful" forms of the workers, the "beautiful" homes they occupy, and the "beautiful" clothes they wear.

Vote as your boss tells you, just as you did in the recent Federal elections, and you'll always have a boss. As long as you are satisfied with coarse and scanty food, your masters will be content to enjoy the dainties.

To-day the class struggle is a fact that is recognised by employers, churchmen, journalists, and politicians. In fact, only one class refuses to recognise it—the working class. The workers persist in self-denial, while their masters persist in making them do it more and more.

During the recent elections we heard a good deal about "freedom," but the freedom the politicians talk about is only the freedom of the master class to rob the toilers.

The ballot in the hands of the worker who votes a capitalist ticket is like a boomerang which returns and hits the thrower.

When a man says he "lives off the income of his property," he really means that he lives on someone else's labor. Property produces nothing apart from labor.

Ignorance is a bad thing, but a political party which doesn't know that it is ignorant is the limit. A Labor Party which will deliberately go forth to smash trusts by buying them out, doesn't know the extent of its own ignorance. It wants this paper and Socialist literature very badly.

George Reid's "Yes-no" policy used to be laughed at, but he knew his electors. In the recent Federal elections the people gave the Liberals a majority in the House of Representatives, and the Laborites a majority in the Senate—a plain "yes-no" vote—the result of much ignorance imbibed from the daily papers.

A poll clerk writes to say that revolutionaries should make a point of getting into the polling booths at election times. They could

do some propaganda work there, and the experience would open their eyes. He, himself, was impressed by the class-conscious way employers, clergymen, and students voted the Liberal ticket.

Laborites grumble because Liberals don't fight fair. But if the Liberals fought fair they would not fight at all. They have nothing "fair" to fight for.

The money spent on battleships and conscription by the Labor Party would have gone far to educate the workers in economics and prevent the triumph of the Liberals. Fisher, Hughes, and Pearce, "sowed the wind, and have reaped the whirlwind."

If the master class insist on buying war material, let them pay for it. If they insist on war, let them do the fighting. The class war is the only one for the workers.

Armies exist for the purpose of enabling the capitalists to kill off superfluous workers whom they do not wish to support, and also to hold down those they want to continue making profits for them.

An immigrant has upset our daily twisters by writing an article to the London "Daily Mirror" on "Starving in Australia." The article has been denounced as a "gross, malicious, and malicious libel" by the very papers which, only a few weeks ago, described a police raid on dossers in Sydney Domain when hundreds were found homeless and hungry. If the Australian press was run by Baron Munchausen it could hardly be a better liar.

Between 200 and 300 summonses have been issued by the Industrial Department against employees of the gas companies for being concerned in the late strike. In all probability, the cases will be heard before Mr. Justice Heydon, on June 16. The prosecutions have been issued in accordance with a statement made officially some weeks ago that action of this nature would be taken. The Manly Ferry Employees have also been summoned and duly bullied and robbed at the Arbitration Court. The men are now finding out what compulsory arbitration for the prevention of strikes means. Those who voted "yes" on the Referenda during the recent elections voted for this sort of thing, and we wouldn't be surprised to learn that some of the gas men and ferry employees were amongst the number. Perhaps after Judge Heydon is done with them they will know better next time.

The signing of political articles during elections has one good effect. It lets us see who are really responsible for certain views. During the recent elections we saw that Bob Ross, editor of Melbourne "Socialist," and Tom Mottram, editor of "The U.L.U. Organiser," both avowed Socialists, advised the workers to vote for the Labor Party with its anti-trust, conscription, and compulsory arbitration policy, while Maurice Blackburn,

who is a barrister, seemed to hold a brief for the Referenda.

According to the annual report of the N.S.W. Comptroller-General of Prisons, there was an increase in the number of capitalism's victims during 1912. This is significant. Prior to that, each annual report showed a decrease, and it was then that employment was plentiful and the employers were howling for cheap labor and immigration. After the immigration fraud was engineered men became plentiful and cheap and jobs scarce, with the result that burglary and other ways of getting a living were resorted to. As the immigration scheme is pushed, so will robbery and violence increase, and the capitalist's be scared and made to pay the piper. The workers' share will be unemployment, poverty, want, and misery—and jail.

Our champion sub-getter stands to lose the championship. Alf. Rees has sent in 17 in two weeks from up Rockhampton way. A few others might imitate his shining example.

The Federal situation:
FISHER: We have a grand surplus of £2,500,000 for you.

COOK: Yes, and we'll take good care that those who produced it don't get any of it.

FISHER: Not likely! You should waste it on battleships, fortifications, armies, and military fol-de-rol.

G. K. Chesterton in his work "The Victorian Age in Literature," says: "We most frequently feel, with the Victorians, that the very vastness of the number of things they know illustrates the abrupt abyss of the things they do not know. We feel, in a sort of way, that it is a disgrace to a man like Carlyle when he asks the Irish why they do not bestir themselves and re-forest their country; saying not a word about the soaking up of every sort of profit by the landlords which made that and every other Irish improvement impossible. We feel that it is a disgrace to a man like Ruskin when he says, with a solemn visage, that building in iron is ugly and unreal, but that the weightiest objection is that there is no mention of it in the Bible; we feel as if he had just said he could find no hair-brushes in Habakkuk. We feel that it is a disgrace to a man like Thackeray when he proposes that people should be forcibly prevented from being nuns, merely because he has no fixed intention of becoming a nun himself. We feel that it is a disgrace to a man like Tennyson, when he talks of the French revolutions, the huge crusades that had recreated the whole of his civilisation, as being 'no graver than a schoolboy's barring out.' We feel that it is a disgrace to a man like Browning to make spluttering and spiteful puns about the names of Newman, Wiseman, and Manning. We feel that it is a disgrace to a man like Newman when he confessed that for some time he felt as if he couldn't come in to the Catholic Church because of that dreadful Mr. Daniel O'Connell, who had the vulgarity to fight for his own country. We feel that it is a disgrace for a man like Dickens when he makes a blind brute and savage out of a man like St. Dunstan; it sounds as if it were not Dickens talking but Dombey. We feel that it is a disgrace to a man like Swinburne, when he has a Jingo fit and calls the Boer children in the concentration camps 'Whelps of treacherous dams whom none save we have spared to starve and slay; we feel that Swinburne, for the first time, really has become an immoral and indecent writer. All this is a certain odd provincialism peculiar to the English in that great century: they were in a kind of pocket; they appealed to too narrow a public opinion: I am certain that no French or German men of the same genius made such remarks."

"You might have the clerks back to-night," said the owner to a subordinate, as he buttoned up his coat to go home. "It is getting near the end of the month and the ledgers are behindhand."

"Shall I have the factory hands back also?"

"The factory hands!" roared the chief, getting very red in the face, "I should say not. Don't you know that they are well organised and will make us pay for overtime?"

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The Macedonian rulers of Egypt have been blamed for the manner in which they dealt with the religious sentiment of their time. They prostituted it to the purpose of statecraft, finding in it a means of governing their lower classes. To the intelligent they gave philosophy.—*Draper*.

The Defeat of the Labor Party.

A Yes-no Vote.

The Socialist vote shows an immense increase.

The recent elections have resulted disastrously for the Labor Party. In fact, they have covered both parties, Liberal and Labor, with ridicule.

During the campaign both sides deliberately set themselves to delude and mislead the electors. Faked argument and positive lying were raised to a fine art, while no serious attempt was made either by political leaders or the press to honestly explain any question discussed.

One reason for this was that neither party had any forward policy to put before the electors, and the Labor Government, having much to hide and keep the electors from discussing, made their run on the Referenda, which was easily shown to be the most transparent fraud of our time.

The electors, then, miseducated by both parties, went to the poll, and, to put it mildly, made the ballot-box a focus of their ignorance, with the result that the Liberal Party was given a small majority in the House of Representatives, while their Labor opponents have an overwhelming majority in the Senate.

As matters stand, the Liberals will occupy the Treasury Benches, but they will be compelled to pass only those measures which their opponents favor. This will be little or no hardship to them, for the policies of the two parties are so much alike; and, in reality, neither a Liberal nor a Labor Party can actually rule.

The real rulers of Australia are the dominant economic interests of the day, which hold both parties in their vicious grip.

When Labor was in power it was compelled to pass a Land Tax, with an exemption for the numerous small employing land owners. Its Conscript Act was passed in the interests of property owners and employers bent upon destroying the right to strike. Its Commonwealth Bank and Note Issue was passed in the interests of and for the convenience of, the same classes.

Its Old Age Pensions and Maternity grant are both measures which Liberal parties all over the world favor, and are passing; while the Referenda proposals to buy out trusts and monopolies, and destroy the right to strike were altogether in the interests of the trading and employing class.

The voting on the Referenda was significant in as much as it showed that many thousands of Liberals voted for it in the full knowledge that it favoured their ambitions. The leaders of the Liberal party only differed with the Labor party over the scope and extent of the Referenda proposals. During the contest they repeatedly declared that they favoured amendment of the Constitution in the direction indicated, but had no desire to go so far as the Labor party proposed.

This declaration of the Liberal leaders leaves them free to adopt and carry the Referenda proposals in a modified form, and if we know them at all, we fully expect them to do it.

Should the Liberals adopt this policy, and it is as much their's as it is that of the so-called Labor party, that is the policy of the interests that dominate both parties—it will be amusing to watch the faces of those workers who rushed to the polls to vote "Yes" under the impression that they were striking a blow at their enemies, the employing and exploiting class.

The whole situation, as far as the old parties are concerned, is much as it was. As the London "Times" put it before the elections: "From an Imperial (capitalist) standpoint, nothing is at stake. Both parties are equally loyal to the Imperial (capitalist) idea, and Imperial (capitalist) interests are safe whichever one wins." All

that really was at stake was the emoluments of office for the leaders.

There was, however, much more at stake for the revolutionary wing of the working class army. We of that wing, in the past, had honestly warned fellow workers against Conscript, Compulsory Arbitration, and other pitfalls dug for them by our masters, and on this occasion, true to the traditions of revolutionary Socialism, we warned them against the dishonest Referenda, and showed that it meant the extension of the Compulsory Arbitration, the abolition of the right to strike, and the enforcement by a Conscript army of the awards given by class-conscious judges appointed by the employing class.

We saw that the Referenda was a dangerous weapon in the hands of the master class, and, dealing honestly with the workers, we said so and urged them to vote it down. We believe that honest dealing with the electors is the best for our movement, and though we received criticism at the hands of a few who feared that such honesty was ill-advised, we feel sure that future events will justify us as past events have done.

Workers who have watched this paper's career have lived to see its views fully justified, when it has spoken against Conscript, Arbitration, and other Labor follies, and we have no doubt whatever that ere long they will see all that we have said against the Referenda amply justified.

There is one thing that will give our readers the greatest satisfaction, and that is that our hard propaganda work is bearing good fruit. Socialists have long known that their numbers are increasing all over the world, while their opponents are losing numerical strength and prestige, but prior to the recent elections there was no telling how things were going here.

Now, however, that the returns are in, we find that the growth of Socialism is keeping pace with that in other countries, and we shall soon be receiving the congratulations of comrades from every part of the world. The vote polled by the three Socialist candidates for the Senate, shows that our voting strength has nearly doubled in three years.

One of the candidates—J. O. Moroney—who ran last time, has actually increased his vote from 9600 to 21,816, an achievement which must be gratifying to Socialists, not only of the Commonwealth, but of the world, which is watching our growth with absorbing interest.

This result should hearten comrades everywhere, and encourage them to get into the firing line. The vote cast shows that there are thousands of Socialists unattached, and who do not subscribe to this paper. Get into touch with them, and let them know that if but one half of those who voted for Socialism would devote a penny a week to the cause, by buying this paper, it could soon be enlarged and become the power which a few are gallantly endeavouring to make it. Let them know that they can help the greatest of all causes by joining the growing army of international Socialists, who are working unceasingly and ungrudgingly for the abolition of poverty and the emancipation of the workers from capitalist exploitation. Do this during the next three years, and rest assured that when the count is taken and the numbers go up, we shall see a still more rapid advance.

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THE CAPITALIST CHURCH.

One of the subjects discussed at the Anglican Synod held at Newcastle, was the question of the very scanty dole which society recompenses the services of its clergymen. It is a notorious fact that clergymen everywhere are badly paid, their congregations apparently appraising their services on a very low estimate. Why this is so is not hard to estimate. The capitalist system is crumbling, and Christianity being essentially the religion of capitalism is feeling the effects of the general decay. The workers see, too, many inconsistencies in church dignitaries and their teaching, and stay away from the church. Those who do go, have little or nothing to give towards the minister's salary, because capitalism allows the worker nothing for "spiritual comforts." The upkeep of the churches then, falls mostly upon the well-to-do, who have hitherto supported them in the belief that they exert a steady influence upon the masses. Now that the masses are staying away, and industrial unrest is increasing, the wealthy are coming to the conclusion that the church is no longer as useful as it used to be, and are withdrawing their support. The clergy do the best they can for their masters, by condemning strikers and commending conscription and other things favorable to the master-class, but that only serves to alarm the workers more and scare them away from the churches. What the clergy should do is to study the capitalist system, paying special heed to Marxian economics. They will see clearly enough then whether they are drifting, and the younger men will be able to get out of a tight place. What is happening to the clergy to-day, will probably happen to the capitalist journalist ere long. When the workers see that the daily press is a poisoned spring, they will hate it like poison, and refuse to buy its papers. When the capitalist press loses its influence with the workers, its masters will

realise that it is of no further use to them, and will drop it as they are now dropping the church. Capitalism only supports and subsidises what is useful to itself.

"SANDWICH MEN." THE SLAVES OF THE BOARD.

The Westminster Coroner recently said that the presence of sandwich-men in London streets was degrading, and that they should be abolished.

Mr. Fulton, who is the largest employer of sandwich-men in London, gave some particulars to the "Pall Mall Gazette" in defence of their employment. Some of his remarks are interesting as showing how, under Capitalism, a section of the defrauded poor live:—

"It may be degrading, but what is the alternative? There are some three thousand sandwich-men in London, and I am perfectly certain that if the boards were taken from them the police statistics would tell their own tale. The vast majority, if they were not carrying the boards, would be prowling the streets picking up cigar ends or begging. Hard work is abhorrent to them.

"Why I have had lawyers, doctors, merchants, and other professional and commercial men on my books, but once a sandwich-man always a sandwich-man. About five years ago I had a man, a well-set-up young fellow, but he disappeared. Some time afterwards I was stopped near my office by a distinguished-looking individual who asked me if I remembered him. I did not until he gave the nickname he was known by 'Silent.'

"He was immaculately dressed, and explained that he had come into possession of £80,000. That was the last I saw of him until two years ago, when I noticed him back in the crowd of sandwich-men again, I was amazed, and asked him what had happened.

"That is my business," he replied, and went away. He never put in an appearance again, and what he is doing I do not know.

"There was another man known as 'Lawyer,' who was one of the counsel in a famous poisoning case. He carried boards for me, and devoted his leisure time to writing begging letters at a penny each, and he was one of the best at the game. Drink, laziness, and in some cases illness are the main causes of a man's descent into the ranks of sandwich-men.

"I have one man whose wife does charring, and he earns from 10s. to 12s. a week carrying sandwich boards. He is always clean and comfortably dressed, and the couple are bringing up a family of six very respectably. Then there are a number of army and navy pensioners who add a few shilling a week to their pensions. There is one color-sergeant with a pension of 17s. 6d. a week who cheerfully carries the boards. It is a matter of temperament, of course, and many men could not do it under ordinary circumstances."

THE CALL FROM KRUPPS.

As a last shaft, I asked him if he was prepared to make any statement as regards the overtures made to him by Krupp's firm since he had been in Europe? His reply was that the German firm of makers of munitions of war had written to him twice inviting him to come over and see the works, and that Mr. Coghlan, the Agent-General for N.S. Wales had been approached by the same firm with an invitation from the wife of the gun-making magnate asking him to persuade Mrs. Holman to use her influence with her husband to visit the works in Germany, and assuring her of a most interesting and pleasant trip.

It is evident that the firm of Krupp, makers of munitions for blowing the workers to a world "where Sabbaths have no end," though they are keenly on the lookout for Colonial markets, do not realise that it is the Commonwealth and not the States' Labor Parties which has embarked on the military adventure, for which the workers of Australia were taxed in 1912 to the tune of £5,500,000. Considering that Mr. Lloyd George estimates that since he was at the Treasury Great Britain's expenditure on armaments had grown by £15,000,000 it is easy to see how the makers of implements of warfare depend for their daily bread on getting the ear of satesmen and politicians who may be "good" for an order. Fortunately for the workers, Mr. Holman is neither a jingo nor a militarist, and he has courteously declined to enter the parlour of the Krupp spider.—London "Daily Herald."

The above is both interesting and significant as illustrating the attempts that are made by the warmongering interests to enlist the influence and services of prominent Labor representatives from Australia in the jobbery connected with militarism. Lord Roberts, the chief scaremonger of the sharpers who comprise the National Service League, arm in arm with "Billy" Hughes, or patting "Jim" McGowan on the back for the services he had rendered the cause of conscription, big armaments and big contracts, was a sight to set even the dullest of laborites thinking hard. And when now we see what happened to Mr. Holman, we can conjecture what happened to the coronation contingent that went to England un-

"Poor Humanity."

Stupified by Shame and Poverty.

Made wretched by the soldier and the plutocrat. Extracted from THE RED LILY, (By Anatole France).

Choulette, an eccentric poet, is carving a head on the handle of his walking-stick. "It was the thin face of a woman weeping. Choulette meant it to express human suffering, not in its touching simplicity as in an earlier civilisation when barbarism was mingled with goodness, nor painted and hideous with that ugliness into which it had been degraded by the middle-class free-thinkers and the militarist patriots, the children of the French Revolution. In his opinion the present government was the personification of hypocrisy and brutality.

"Barracks are a horrible invention of modern times" (he says). "They originate in the seventeenth century. Formerly there was nothing but the guard-house, where veterans played cards and told fairy stories. Louis XIV. is the precursor of the Convention and of Bonaparte. But the evil has come to a head in the monstrous institution of universal military service. To have forced men to kill each other is the disgrace of emperors and republics, the crime of crimes. In the so-called barbarous ages, cities and princes entrusted their defence to mercenaries who made war deliberately and prudently: in some great battles there were only five or six slain. And when the knights engaged in war they were not forced to it; they were killed of their own free will. It is true they were good for nothing else. In the days of Saint Louis no one would have dreamt of sending a man of learning and intelligence into battle. Neither was the labourer dragged from his plough and forced to join the army. Now it is considered the duty of a poor peasant to serve as a soldier. Now he is driven from his home with its chimneys smoking in the golden evening light, from the fat meadows where his oxen are grazing, from his cornfields and ancestral woods. In the courtyard of some miserable barracks he is taught how to kill men methodically; he is told that it is an honor, and if he desire no such honor, he is shot. He obeys, because, like all the gentlest, gayest, and most docile animals, he is afraid. We in France are soldiers, and we are citizens. Our citizenship is another occasion for pride! For the poor it consists in supporting and maintaining the men in their power and their idleness. At this task they must labor in the face of the majestic equality of the laws, which rob the rich and poor alike to sleep upon the bridges, to beg in the streets, and to steal their bread. This equality is one of the benefits of the Revolution. Why, that revolution was effected by madmen and idiots for the benefit of those who had acquired the wealth of the crown. It resulted in the enrichment of cunning peasants and money-lending bourgeois. In the name of equality it founded the empire of wealth. It delivered France to those moneyed classes who have been devouring her for a century. Now they are our lords and masters. The so-called government, composed of poor creatures, pitiable, miserable, impoverished, and complaining, is in the pay of financiers. Throughout the last hundred years anyone caring for the poor in this plague-stricken country has been held a traitor to society. And you are considered dangerous if you assert that there are those who suffer poverty. There are even laws against indignation and pity. But what I am saying now cannot be printed."

Choulette looked pathetically at the figure carved upon his stick.

"There you are," he said, "Poor Humanity, emaciated and in tears, stupified by shame and poverty, such as you have been made by your masters, the soldier and the plutocrat."

"With what spirit do we send forth our fighting men? The drunken revels which form the music-halls ideals of good fellowship, the excitement of the gin palace, and the London streets—as if the bottle was the best prelude for the battle; the cries to the poor lads to avenge this or that, the greedy newspapers spreading unfounded slanders against our opponents, the insistence by which prejudice and angry ignorance have persuaded us that the enemy was but a horde of savages, who would run away at once. The whole temper of our times is so utterly anti-Christian that it appals me when I look out upon it all, and note the intolerance with which men hate opinions opposed to the momentary enthusiasm. We know that these noisy people, who let no voice but their's be heard on platform, in pulpit, in the newspaper, and who will never themselves bear the brunt and pains of it, are far from being the same mind of our (British) people."

—Dean Kitchin.

der the leadership of Prime Minister Fisher and Senator Pearce.

W. R. Winespear, 115 Goulburn-St., Sydney.

Leg Irons for Labor.

The Right to Strike.

If industrial arbitration means anything, it means the abolition of the right to strike.

J. R. Wilson.

When this article sees printer's ink the elections just pending will be over, either the Labour Party will have emerged triumphant or their friends the Liberals.

To the Revolutionary Socialist it matters not which secure the political victory, since both parties will undoubtedly faithfully administer the class state.

Since there is only one Bill out of the six that in any way affects the working-class, viz., the Bill relating to Industrial matters. I shall refrain at present from making any comment upon the others, and briefly confine myself to the significance of this piece of proposed legislation from a working-class viewpoint.

Now, it will be frankly admitted that the right to strike for higher pay or shorter hours has been a right claimed by every true son of toil, not because we are averse to the securing of what we want by peaceful methods, but because many of us (in fact a growing number of us), recognise that force is necessary, that appeals to the master class to grant us what we deem reasonable terms, has always been more or less of a farce. In fact, we agree with Bernard Shaw to the letter, that the worker might as well sing hymns to a tiger as expect to convert the master class by moralising.

Strikes, of course, are not organised for fun, they take place always because all other methods to secure redress have failed, and are undoubtedly manifestations of the class war.

To begin with, let me say, that if compulsory arbitration means anything it means, first the preserving of industrial peace; secondly, it implies that disputes between the exploiter and exploited can be settled peacefully, with representatives gathered round a table; and thirdly, that the interests of both parties are identical.

He would, indeed, be a hardy debater who (with any knowledge of economics) would assert that the interests of masters and slaves were identical, since any schoolboy must admit that the wealth created by labour amounts to so much, and that when labour receives a larger portion, the capitalist receives less, and vice versa. Consequently there can be no identity of interests, since both are resolved upon securing in their own material interests as large a share as possible, while upon the other hand, the demand of a growing Socialist movement, that the worker should receive the full product of his toil, entirely lays bare the class character of the conflict between worker, and shirker, capitalist and wage-slave.

A recognition of the above, therefore convinces any wage-earner with average intelligence that disputes cannot be settled peacefully, and that if such could be done, it would simply amount to perpetuating capitalism, and the present form of human slavery.

But to the preserving of industrial peace, at which compulsory arbitration, with its penal clauses, aims, in whose interest do the Labour Party, and the Liberal Party also, seek to preserve industrial peace. Surely not in the interest of the worker.

It is only by the paralysis of industry by withholding the sale of our labour power when it is most required (in order that contracts may be completed in a stipulated time, etc.), that we the wage-slaves of the Commonwealth can force our oppressors to concede to our always more than moderate demands.

Compulsory arbitration, therefore, means the taking away of the right to strike, and compelling all wage-slaves, no matter what their grievances may be, to rely solely upon the Arbitration Court for redress, for increased wages, shorter hours, etc.

Upon the other hand it does not necessarily follow that the Arbitration Court will grant us what we want; nevertheless, we dare not strike, in fact, we may even have our wages reduced, but abide by the Court's decision we must, according to the advocates of compulsory arbitration or else we shall be penalised, when we strike, by being gaoled and fined, and by having our wages garnished, while union officers can be flung into capitalist dungeons to rot, and union funds seized by the government to the end that unionists may be coerced into accepting conditions, hours, wages, etc., pleasing to exploiters of labour.

Such is the object of compulsory arbitration, viz., the preserving of industrial peace so that capitalist industry can be developed irrespective of the conditions imposed on the great army of wage-slaves.

True, it is, that in the near future the Arbitration Court will be ignored by the militant working-class, but it is equally as true that every vote cast for the Bill relating to Industrial matters has been a vote cast for "Leg Irons for Labour."

J. R. Wilson, 47 Victoria-St., Melbourne.

Push "The International Socialist." Get subscribers.

An Economic Heretic.

Large Scale versus Small Scale Production.

The false hope of the optimist that some day he may rise out of his class and become a capitalist.

By H. J. Cruickshank.

Optimism is good, but there are some wage-workers who are very optimistic about our present social system. Optimistic without justification, I think. These individuals assert that an individual is not of necessity born into the working class for life, but that if only he possesses the ability he may, by the exercise of his many laudable virtues, included under this term of ability, rise out of his class and become himself a Capitalist. Parsimony with one's wages is the first rung of the ladder, Parsimony with one's profits is another step, not forgetting foresight, initiative ingenuity, etc. Eventually one receives his well-earned reward in the shape of profits sufficiently large to enable the receiver to live without laboring. This may have been true of the past. In the pre-capitalist or primary capitalist system, when the tools of production were modest in size and value—when production was individualistic, it was then that one could acquire possession of tools requisite to production of his trade; but nowadays it is different. In the majority of branches of industry small scale production has disappeared. The battle of competition is fought with cheap commodities. Large scale production produces cheaper than small scale production. As the existence of many small scale industries implies competition, it is inevitable that large scale productions will eventually predominate. All the advantages are with large scale production, and the minimum of capital requisite to launch out on any productive enterprise constantly grows larger. It can be safely asserted that the largeness of this minimum has now assumed proportions which preclude all from productive enterprise except the recipients of large inherited sums or the occurrence of any such exceptional circumstances as would rather prove my contention than otherwise.

No! The ground upon which this argument is based has slipped from under our feet. The future, judged by present tendencies, lies in large scale production of such immensity as to demand social ownership; not in private ownership of individual tools by a majority of even reasonable number. It is possible for a blacksmith to own an anvil and hammer, but when the steam hammer replaces these it is not possible, if he does he owns them to the exclusion of someone else.

The advent of the Joint Stock Company

proves my claim. Without this form of aggregate capital we would still lack railways, steamships, canals, etc. However, this has not made the ownership of capital more universal, as was expected by many, rather has it proved the means whereby the savings of the thrifty workers have been drawn into the vortex of Stock Exchange gambling, and "hulled" and "beared" into the insatiable sink of capitalist magnates. I could substantiate all my statements re large scale production and Stock Exchange gambling, but will leave that for your own investigation. For the first, just peep inside the first big ironworks you pass, and as the door of the Stock Exchange has inscribed upon it "Members Only," the latter information will have to be sought second-hand in Lawson's, "Frenzied Finance" or Zola's money.

This economic evolution from small scale to large scale and eventually trustified industry is inevitable—inherent in the very system of production itself, it has expropriated small producers, without compensation of their tools, and is rapidly turning us into a nation of wage-earners destitute of property—into "propertyless proletarians." To suppress it is impossible. There is no retrogression in economic evolution.

However, oppressive in its progression it may be it has a good element capable of development. Large scale industry is more productive by reason of the fact that it eliminates the wasteful methods of small scale competing industry, and introduces co-operation, division of labor, and in its trustified form dispenses with all advertising, except informative. Individual ownership means that this benefit accrues only to the few social ownership means that it will become the possession of all. Who can doubt that private ownership of industry will eventually disappear. Private ownership of productive property has its roots in the individualistic mode of production but in its development Capitalism negates the very principal upon which it is based, and to bring order into the contradictory system eventually the "negation of the negation" must take place. In other words, social production demands social ownership.

Is this aspiration to be a Capitalist not a chimera born on the conception of economic conditions which now, in the main, have disappeared.

Wage Increases.

Comrades Brown and Quinton have been getting in some good propaganda work on the northern rivers. On the Bellinger River, where they stayed several weeks, they were particularly active, holding meetings and replying to letters in the local press. The following letter by Comrade Brown must have surprised the local political economists when it appeared in the Bellinger "Northern Courier":—

Sir,—In last Wednesday's issue of the "Courier" there appeared a paragraph under the heading "Too Much Gall," which supports the theory of Marxian Socialists that the increase in the cost of living is consequent upon the depreciation in the value of gold. To explain, perhaps, it would be helpful to give a brief outline of the law of value as maintained by the Marxian School. It is that the value of a commodity is determined by the socially necessary labor time embodied in it. Commodities exchange on the market at their value (taking a period in order to allow for fluctuations). Thus, if it took eight hours of socially necessary labour time to produce a pair of boots, and eight hours to make a hat, the hat would exchange with the boots. Actually, many disturbing influences enter; but for the purposes of this discussion we can afford to ignore them. Gold is a commodity; but whereas the price—money expression of value—of all other commodities can vary, and do vary, the price of an ounce of gold remains fixed at £4—actually it is a few shillings below. Owing to improvements in machinery and methods of mining, it is possible now to procure gold with the expenditure of less labor time, and as a consequence gold has become cheaper—has fallen in value. For the sake of simplification let us exaggerate and say that gold has now only the purchasing power of what

formerly was expressed in 10s. To offset this fall, without altering prices, would necessitate a doubling of the quantity of gold contained in a sovereign. We know this is not done, as an ounce of gold fetches the same to-day as in the past. The only alternative is an advance in the price of other commodities. We can illustrate by supposing it takes 24 hours of socially necessary labor time to produce a suit of clothes, and the same time to produce an ounce of gold. On the market the ounce of gold (£4), will exchange with the suit. Owing to improved methods, the gold can now be produced in 12 hours, its value has diminished by one half. Consequently two ounces are necessary to purchase the suit. These two ounces, taken to the mint, are made into eight sovereigns, and so the exchange price of a suit increases from £4 to £8. This depreciation in gold values has affected the whole civilised world, and we see the consequences in striking workmen, who are compelled by the very necessities of circumstances to fight for an increase in their normal wages to thus counteract this diminishing purchasing power of gold. This being the case, we Socialists see the folly of inveighing against the workers for acting as they have done, but try to point out that so long as the system of capitalism lasts their efforts stand to be nullified, and so it behoves them to carry out what really is their historic mission—the abolition of capitalism and establishment of an industrial republic. I enclose a clipping from an English paper which bears light on the subject: "The heavy fall in the purchasing power of a sovereign is evidenced still further by the following comparison of prices issued by the Co-operative Wholesale Society: 1898, 80.81lbs.; weight: 1906, 76.69lbs.; 1908, 73.49lbs.; 1910, 71.29lbs.; 1911, 72.67lbs.; 1912, 69.46lbs."

"The standard of living never refers to the wants of laborers, but to their average needs and necessities."

A laborer may desire to have porter-house steak, turkey and chicken salad every day in the week and to dress in broadcloth on Sunday, but his wages are what determines his individual standard of living, and not vice versa, and he is thankful if he is able to secure even

shoulder steak and a half respectable suit of shoddy clothes.

If a man resides in a rookery and lives on the coarsest of food it is because of necessity. Give him a position where he can earn 100 dollars a month and see how quickly he will raise his standard of living. He will at once move into a decent house and supply his table with palatable food.

Conscription alias Compulsory Training.

Some Mental Degenerates.

Tailor-made gentlemen and political barnacles mislead the people.

Although a person ignores the disgusting old-womanish ravings of our alleged statesmen, (what time they are endeavouring to dodge their correct occupations, the pick and shovel, he blushes with shame to think that in this age of alleged civilisation, men of culture, are so mentally debased as to infer that "War and Conscription," with its attendant horrors, is just and necessary. Foremost amongst such advocates we find mental degenerates that profess to teach "Peace on earth, and good will towards all men," Monsignor Drew, the Rev. Golding Bird, and the Rev. Donald McNicol, are types of the former. How old habits and traditions cling! History reveals the horrifying fact that the foundation of the church is built from the cries and groans of the tortured, and the ship of religion is propelled by bloodshed and coercion, and not by love, mercy and kindness. During their insatiate yearning for blood, these tailor-made gentlemen, and a few political barnacles, endeavor to mislead the people, that conscription and universal service are totally different. Now, let us reason the matter out! Conscription simply means compulsory enrolment and service for any fixed term. Now seeing that universal service demands compulsory enrolment and service for a fixed term, we cannot differentiate between the two, whether the time fixed for service is measured by days, weeks, months, or years. Whether detained within the barracks or without, the trainee must forfeit his freedom whilst drilling. A conscripted person must report to the authorities should he change his place of abode, and the same applies to our boys should they change from one area to another. How such wowers can have the chilled-steel cheek to try to differentiate between the two, is beyond comprehension. If an enraged Socialist used Joe Cook as a weapon to kill Andy Fisher with, it would be murder, and if the same Socialist used a weapon of value, say an axe, to kill the statesman with, it would still be murder, notwithstanding the plausible excuse in the former case, that the country wanted protecting. In conclusion, I think the sooner the "heads" of the church frame, and bring into operation, "A Noxious Weeds Act," the better, for how can we expect the snow-white flower of Christianity to bloom and spread, when such noxious weeds as the Drew, Bird, McNicol variety are allowed to flourish. Mothers and fathers, fight for your conscripted babies; tear to shreds the iniquitous Conscription Act, fathered by an irresponsible Liberal Government, and wet-nursed into a healthy vampirish life by a weak-kneed Labor Government. (?) or the day may come when, half-mangled upon some battlefield in the interests of the capitalistic masters that have grounded you into poverty, your son may curse you.

WILLIAM GEO. KING.

Port Augusta.

No Competition.

To be absolutely honest in business under capitalism is as impossible as it would be to be absolutely conscientious in burglary. In business you drive a sharp bargain every chance you get and skin your competitor as a matter of course.

The point is well illustrated in a story that is told about the late Colonel Robert G. Ingersoll. The Colonel met an old politician who had been defeated for reelection, was broke, and disgusted with politics.

"What do you propose to do now?" asked the Colonel of his friend, the politician.

"I am going to stay out of politics," was the answer, "and try to make an honest living."

"In that case you should surely succeed," was the Colonel's happy retort, "for you'll not have a damned bit of competition around here."

The Colonel thoroughly understood how impossible it was to make a living by honest means in the capitalist system. Men go into business nowadays, not to make an honest living, but to skin others so as not to be skinned themselves.

Think of John Pierpont Morgan and other plutocrats who have piled up hundreds of millions of dollars in this skin game of capitalism being held in restraint by any scruples of honesty in their dealings with the lambs they fleece! It is to laugh.

But so long as Labor-power remains a commodity we can hope for no improvement.

REV. C. H. VAIL.

The Happy Medium.

An enterprising financier could hardly do better with his capital than found a paper in the Commonwealth to lay bare the really funny side of our public affairs. Such a paper, with a staff of Mark Twains and Bernard Shaws would find our political arena replete with killingly comic matter. Once, the "Bulletin" might have seized upon these situations, but to-day that journal is in a sorry plight—deaf, dumb, blind, and hypnotised.

In the absence of Mark Twain and G.B.S., perhaps Rev. F. C. Spurr might be prevailed upon to hear a call from Above to occupy the editorial chair. Certainly he has the faculty of pulling the public leg. Only last week this reverend gentleman informed one of the staff of an Adelaide day-lie that the political redemption of the Australian people can only come per medium of a third party, a "moderate" party, forsooth, a go-between party with a half-way-house policy somewhere betwixt the policies of the two orthodox parties. We must understand the position in its true perspective. The right thinking section of the community like Mr. Spurr cannot wholly endorse the policy of either of these parties, yet they are forced to vote for one or other of their extremist policies. A party with right views would be views a wee bit faster than Liberalism, and a wee bit slower than Laborism. Savvy?

An hour after I read the account of that interview I spent a humorous evening listening to three Laborites. The burden of all three speeches was, "The Labor Party's policy represents the interests of the whole community, not of any one class. The administration of the Fisher Government satisfied all good Australians. There was not one of nearly 200 Acts passed by the Labor Government that Joe Cook and his party would try to rescind in the event of their being sent to the treasury benches." And while the Laborites are delivering this empty message to the people the Liberals are stamping the country crying that the Labor Party has stolen their policy.

Here are two parties with practically identical policies. Each in turn has administered the laws and constitution of Capitalism in a machine-like capitalistic way, each has fathered child conscription, each fettered unionism with coercive arbitration schemes, each gaoled unionists, each protected scabs, each smashed strikes, and each raised their own salaries. And a reverend satirist, bursting with mirth and knowledge of the ignorance and gullibility of the masses ventures a hope that room will be made for a third party with plans more like Liberalism than Laborism, but not so bad, only different.

But before No. 3, this nondescript pretty little party from nowhere at all can be spurred from everywhere into the fight, a more side-splitting farce than any theatrical farce ever staged before the footlights is in the making in the shape of a real "go-in" between these two gangs of professional politicians to get into the next Palaverment. After a few hundred evidences of the fidelity of both to the big-wigs of the land the mouth-pieces of Liberalism and Laborism enter the lists again, each with a sheaf of stock red-herring issues and slogans and platitudes designed to keep the working-class electors believing that after all there's a wide difference between their policies and ideas and ideals. By the hour they solicit the support of the toilers by virtue of banking schemes and irrigation schemes, and war schemes, and arbitration schemes, and yellow peril schemes, and railway schemes, and scab schemes galore, and 101 schemes, some at the bottom detrimental to Labor, but for the most part of no material concern to the proletarian masses, but solely the issues of the manufacturers and landlords battleground. When these specious schemes are enumerated and duly applauded, a vigorous denunciation of the other side is backed by an interminable list of statistics that do not mean anything, and Mr. Man-in-the-street is satisfied that the policy of Laborism must be the antithesis of Liberalism's policy. But when the workers of any industry, be they fruit-pickers or rock-choppers, or bricklayers, or miners, or tramwaymen, or engine-drivers, claim the right to withdraw their labor power from the machinery of production pending the adjustment of any grievance they thereby become criminals and outlaws, are denounced and harassed by both parties, and when expedient, garnished or gaoled by the government of the day, irrespective of the personnel of that government. For any government under Capitalism must necessarily be the executive council of the capitalist class. It functions as a machine that sets the laws of the land operating, and always the masters of the land and machines dominate the law-makers. The state to-day is a glorified capitalist, and all laws must be bound to reflect state interests. The workers are slowly learning this, and realising that they have no defence whatever outside the power of their own industrial organisations. The economic status of the wage-earner has got beyond the province of parliamentarianism. Such will be reflected in the future by the fighting power of industrial unions.

An Appeal.

From the Greek Socialist Party.

40, Rue Pirée, Athens.

14 Park Square
Regent's Park, London.
March, 1913.

An appeal to comrades all over the world on behalf of the Greek Socialists was to have been sent out at the same time as the appeals from the Serbian and Bulgarian Socialists.

But just then, our general secretary, who was to prepare the circular, was called away suddenly from Athens to Constantinople and kept out of touch with us for more than a fortnight. Hence the delay in the appeal.

The situation in Greece, in consequence of the mobilisation is no less critical and acute than in the rest of the Balkans. The whole country is suffering from the devastating effects of war due to loss of employment, dispersion and deaths.

In Greece, as in the other belligerent countries, our propaganda has been particularly crippled, and our Socialist Labour Centre at 40 Rue Pirée, Athens, as well as its branches in the provinces, must soon be closed through lack of funds.

The work already achieved during peace, in spite of difficulties, is most excellent. Socialist thought has so deeply penetrated public opinion that it has overcome the former repugnance of the Greek nation to the ideal of "The United Balkan Peoples," and has even created a certain amount of public opinion in favor of pursuing that ideal along our lines.

Among the signal achievements of the Greek Socialist Party may also be reckoned:

(1) The pressure which it has exerted upon the political parties so as to oblige them to pass factory laws, such as they are; and

(2) The satisfactory agitation of the Woman's Question.

The splendid campaign of the last five years is now threatened. The Jingoist elements find the moment opportune to injure us by spreading rumors that as we are anti-militarists, we are inimical to the welfare of the Fatherland.

Owing to the recent imposition of martial law, freedom of speech is suspended. This increases the difficulty of our propaganda, which must cease by next June unless help is forthcoming.

Already we have been compelled to discontinue our weekly organ "Erevna." It has been published at great loss for the past two years (and at a still greater sacrifice since the mobilisation). The Editor hopes to resume its publication as a monthly periodical after the war is over, when a new public will have to be created, as the greater number of its subscribers have been lost sight of.

It is our strong conviction that as soon as the new condition of affairs resolves itself into a Balkan Federation, a new era will dawn for the Socialist Cause in the Near East.

We appeal to our comrades of all nationalities, to send us contributions towards a fund to either of the above objects, i.e.:

(a) The maintenance of our centre in Athens.
(b) The republication of "Erevna," or,
(c) For both.

All donations should be sent by money order, postal order, or American paper money to the Vice-President of the Greek Socialist Party,

Miss FELICIA SCATCHERD,
Hon. Treasurer,
14 Park Square, Regent's Park, London, England.

who will acknowledge all remittances.
(Signed) P. E. DRAKOULES,
FELICIA R. SCATCHERD,
P. HAROKOPOS (Gen. Sec.).

Meantime, we await with patience and interest the policy of the new Spurr Party of Moderation.

CHARLES W. GREEN,
20-5-13. Petersburg, S.A.

TRIPOLITANIA.

The following interesting letter has been received by Chas. Bushell from his brother, a surveyor with the Italian army at Tripolitania.

Benghazi Cirenaica,
16th April, 1913.

After this land had been taken, the nation is in the position that it has to hold it by force, and I can tell you some queer things relating to its methods.

As for us, we have to buy every drop of water which is brought from Italy at 2d. a quart. When the sea is rough ships cannot approach the coast, and we then have to go without a wash for some weeks.

Though peace has been signed with Turkey, the Arabs and Bedouins have not surrendered, and the Italians are not able to penetrate more than about 12 miles inland.

The other day the Italians occupied a hill 12 miles from here, but were dislodged by the Arabs, with a heavy loss on our side. Their guns were more powerful than ours. Some of their missiles fell into our camp.

A.S.P. News & Notes.

MELBOURNE BRANCH.
A.S.P.

Sunday, May 18th saw a fairly good attendance at our branch headquarters, when Comrade C. Menzie spoke on Marx and the Philosophers. The address was much appreciated, and there was some excellent discussion.

On the afternoon of the same day a debate took place between the writer and Mr. Lewis (organiser of the Carters' and Drivers' Union), the writer claiming that the Labor Party was not a working class party, while Mr. Lewis claimed that it was. The attendance was exceptionally large, and the proceedings orderly until about the close of the debate, when a number of coconut-heads who recognised that their champion of the P.L.C. was being delivered the real goods in the shape of argument, which he utterly failed to answer, boo-hoed. It was agreed by all who listened throughout that the Socialist had the best end of the stick, so far as argument was concerned. A vote was taken at the close, an expression of opinion, and although it resulted in a majority for the Labor advocate, nevertheless, all Socialists present were delighted with the large vote cast for their side of the argument.

On Wednesday, 21st, a social and dance was held in branch headquarters, the attendance was fairly good, and all who attended thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The usual Saturday dance boasted an excellent attendance, and all comrades are again requested to invite their friends to attend same.

Sunday 25th, saw a large attendance at our Yarra meeting, when Comrades Zee-gan, Jeffrey and J. R. Wilson delivered telling speeches.

Percy Laidler was the speaker at our headquarters the same evening, when he dealt with the fallacies of the Referenda. The attendance was excellent, and the lecturer in tip-top form. Many questions were asked and satisfactorily disposed of.

Miss Lillian Harris is the speaker for Sunday evening, her subject being "The White Slave Traffic." A large attendance is anticipated, also an interesting and instructive address.

Comrades will learn with regret that Comrade W. Bennett, the party literature secretary has suddenly been seized with paralysis, and has lost the power of his left side and arm. We all hope his serious illness will be of a temporary character, and that he will soon be amongst us again. Our comrade has been, since the branch was formed, one of our best workers in the cause.

G. Hyslop, who took a part in the forming of our branch, but lately a member of the I.W.W., has left for America. Comrade Hyslop whilst with us, did some excellent spade work, and all comrades wish him a good voyage and the best of fortune.

In conclusion, let me impress upon all comrades, that they should make a point of inviting their friends to our lectures and dances, as well as securing subscribers for our splendid paper, the circulation of which ought to be considerably increased in a city such as this.

Note that the plain, fancy, and masked ball will be held in the branch headquarters on Monday, June 9th. Tickets, 1s. 6d. single, 2s. 6d. double. Push the sale of same, and ensure a large attendance.

J. R. WILSON,
Secretary.

and caught one officer and 20 soldiers, 24 of them being killed on the spot.

I can assure you that it makes one sick to see this kind of thing; and hearing the sound of the gun night and day, and after the ambulance loaded with dead and wounded men.

In doing surveying I have to be escorted by not less than 25 men with fixed bayonets. Through this war every worker in Italy has to suffer, the money that has been spent and the future expenditure that has been incurred has brought inconceivable misery in Italy.

In Milan there are 50,000 unemployed. In Central Italy people are starving, and everywhere throughout Italy shops are being closed from want of money.

I envy you to be out of Italian rule. We will have the general elections this year, but the old fox Gollitti gave the franchise to seven million electors, knowing well enough that four-fifths of them are controlled by the church.

The fight in Italy is all against the church, as every party, even the radicals and democrats, are against us, and it takes the same line as in Belgium. If you hear any talk of this war and Italy being praised, tell them that Italy made the greatest mistake possible. Young widows and children deprived of their husbands and fathers this is the result of militarism. I hope that the revolution is not too far off, for the sooner it comes the better.

When you have finished with this paper, pass it on to a friend

ROCKHAMPTON BRANCH.

After a severe loss of five members to this branch, through them having to seek new pastures of exploitation, and the departure of two more in the near future we are glad to say the branch will be going strong again by the entry of about another half-dozen stalwart workers, in the abolition of wage slavery. The slaves around here are beginning to see that nothing short of the abolition of Capitalism can be of any lasting benefit to them. The dope handed out to them by Liberal and Labor politicians is getting on their nerves. The right of individuals to control the production and distribution of the wealth of the community is too absurd to last much longer.

ALF. REES.
Sec. pro-tem.

BALMAIN.

A good meeting was held by Comrades Sloan and Bryce at Rozelle on Sat. night. The majority were attentive, but a few drunks tried to stop Bryce.

On Thursday evening, June 19, Comrade Luke Jones will lecture at the Balmain Town Hall, on "Socialism, and Free Love." Comrades and friends are asked to roll up.

The Administrative Council.

The Administrative Council will meet on Sat. June 14, at 3 p.m. and every fortnight after that date.
H. L. Denford,
Gen. Sec.

Press and Maintenance Fund.

Already acknowledged: £52 12s 3d. Harry Mackay 1s, J. A. Taylor, Yancoo, 2s 6d, May Day Celebrations, 4s 6d, A. R. Welby, Ipswich, 2s. Collected at Club Social 7s 1d. Total £53 9s 4d.

International Socialist Club.

The Adjourned General Meeting of Members will be held on Sunday, May 15, at the rooms, at 11 a.m. Debating Class will meet on Thursday, at 8 p.m. Members of the A.S.P. and S.L.P. are cordially invited to attend.

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O. BLANC, Secretary.

Perth Branch.

Australasian Socialist Party,

Business Meetings held at Ellis's Coffee Palace, Wellington-St., first Thursday in every month at 8 p.m. Propaganda Meetings held every Friday evening at the Railway Station at 8 p.m., and Sunday afternoon at Esplanade at 3 p.m.
C. PARKINSON, Sec. Pro. Tem.

Melbourne Branch

Australasian Socialist Party,

47 Victoria Street, Melbourne.
Lectures held at above address every Sunday evening at 7.30. Meetings at Smith-St., Fitzroy, and Markets, South Melbourne, every Friday evening. Members' Dance held every Saturday, commencing at 8 p.m.

J. R. WILSON, Secy.

Sydney Branch,

Australasian Socialist Party.

Meetings of the above branch are held at Queen's Hall every alternate Thursday, at 7.45 p.m. Propaganda meetings held every Saturday evening at corner of Bathurst and George Streets, Sunday afternoon, Domain, Sunday evening, Market and Park Streets at 7.30 p.m.
Cecil Whitmore, Secretary,
115 Goulburn-street, Sydney.

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